A PLANTER.

From the Register.

Remarks on the Penitentiary Ques-

tion. (No. 2.)

The Penitentiary not a Preventive of Crime.

Crime not an appropriate object of Revenue.

Sat for the Picture."

"Airy dreams

## TERMS.

THE NORTH CAROLINA STANDARD

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

WILLIAM W. HOLDEN,

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM-IN ADVANCE. Those persons who remit by Mail (postage paid) Five Dollars, will be entitled to a receipt for Six Dollars or two years' subscription to the Standard—one co-

py two years, or two copies one year. The same rate for six moths.

Any person procuring and forwarding five subscriers with the cash (\$15,) will be entitled to the Standard one year free of charge. ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding fourteen lines, will

er length, in proportion. Court Orders and Judicied on them, they will be continued until ordered out. may not be attended to.

Proposals for Navy Timber. NAVY DEPARTMENT, Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair, 5th December, 1845.

ZEALED PROPOSALS, endorsed proposuls for hum-D ber, will be received at this bureau until 3 o'clock, quantities and kinds of timber, viz : At the navy yard, Gosport, Virginia.

than 35 feet in length, to average 45 feet, and not less than 14 inches square at the top end. 30,000 cubic feet fine-grain long-leaf southern yellow

8,000 cubic feet of white pine plank stocks, none less than 35 feet in length, and to average 40 feet, and not less than 16 inches square at the top end.

20 pieces 22 feet long, 18 inches wide, and 12 inches

The following spruce pine sticks, spars, and poles: 80 sticks of 50 to 55 feet long, every 8 feet of the length. 20 sticks of 65 to 70 feet long | lengths. 50 spars of 9 inches diameter,

65 spars of 8 inches diameter, 75 spars of 7 inches diameter. 85 spars of 6 inches diameter. 100 mars of 5 inches diameter,

75 poles of not less than 20 feet long-the price per 160 pieces of yellow locust, not less than 7 feet long, and not less than 11 inches in diameter at the small end. To be delivered at the navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H. het you a fat weather against your famous pump. flourish is made, in the face of facts, about the 10,000 cubic feet of white oak, Of light description; kin, that you bragged so much about, (or another efficiency of the Penitentiary in preventing crimes.

plank stocks. 10,000 cubic feet of yellow pine plank stocks, J Gosport, virginia. Then I must explain the rid lie. They built a community to introduce a great change, that is pieces, must be for the cubic foot. Separate proposals must be made for each yard, and

spruce, and for the locust timber. The whole must be of the best quality, and cut before the first day of April of the best quality, and cut before the first day of April other classes, they had only the sooty blacksmiths tention to passing events for many years in suction of the commandants of said navy-yards, respectively, for grumblers. Now, sir, was not this clever? cession, tends greatly to the same conclusion and subject to such inspection and measurement as they Bonds to one-half the amount of the contracts which

be required for their faithful execution, in addition to a before a Presidential efection. Democrats are too view will approximate to the truth. If we ascerdeduction of 10 per cent, from all bills which may be a soft" ever to have planned so smart a thing as tain that the annual profits of a Prison are great which will be retained until they are fully completed in all respects, according to their terms.

If contracts are not executed within five days after they have been received by the persons whose offers have been accepted, the Bureau will consider itself at liberty to offer it to the next lowest responsible bidder.

## Look Herc.

TRAYED from the subscriber, 5 or 6 miles below Louisburg, on the Italifax road, on Friday the 12 h b r, already too large, of agricultural laborers !!! for a time. Judging by the above rules, our instant, a dark bay HORSE, common size, about 6 years Judging from the population of other States where stock of information will go to show conclusively oid. The last I heard of him, he was making his way Penitentiaries are established, and the number of that the Penitentiaries are not preventives of lowards Raleigh. As he was purchased out of a drove Nashville, Nash county, N. C. N. C. HARRISON. Dec. 14, 1845-580-16.

RALEIGH Classical, Mathematical and Military

ACADEMY. Classical Department: J. M. LOVEJOY, PRECEPTOR. Muthematical and Military Department:

W. F. DISBROW. of January, and the second Session, on the first of July. It is the design of the preceptor, that this Institution shall not be surpassed, in the advantages afforded for ac-

Education.

any College in the United States. TERMS OF TUITION: For English and Mathematical Studies,

For Latin, Greek, French, Spanish and Italian Language, per Session,

Military Tactics taught to the Pupils, free of extra bliged to answer, the Merchants. They pay in tem as a source of revenue. The design of the Military Department being to fit a pair for women's shoes, 40 for coarse men's, 30 the Pupils to act, in case of emergency, as Offices, the or 40 for wool hats, and 100 for the best axes. It West Point system of instruction will be carefully purcosts less than one cent to bring a hat or a pair of

tion or for any other purposes.

sued, nor will the Army Tactics be departed from, in

prescribed Uniform.

the Principal of the Academy. TOTAL COMMUNEFERENCES : - 12 1 1 1 1 Hon. George E. Badger, Gen. Moye, Col. E. Yarbrough, Hon. Wm. H. Haywood, Hon, R. M. Saunders, Charles L. Hinton. Rev. D. Lacy, Hon. John H. Bryan, L D. Henry, Wm. F. Collins, Hon. J. R. J. Daniel, James B. Shepard, H. W. Husted. E. P. Guion, Esqr's. Hon. Richard Hines, Dr. Baker,

## The Penitentiary Question.

For the North Carolina Standard, A Penitentiary. (No. 2.)

As my crop is now safely housed, I am once months since that you had enlisted some very able provement law. persons for the discussion of this subject, I have league of night-prowling abolitionists, or a gang finish writing; but if we have many more such old would probably happen, for the sake of increasing of blood-stained murderers, whom we are not ladies in our State, I beg them not to fatigue them pine plank stocks—none less than 40 feet in length, to skillful enough, to enwrap in the meshes of the selves by reading any more from "A Planter," average 45 feet, and not less than 16 inches square at the law, go very gravely and solemnly to work, and for a penitentiary will "cost money." mustering a great company, hang them, or ride them on a rail, or tar and feather them in broad day-light, under the supervision of that hideous 110 but-cuts of white-oak timber, to be free from all monster of iniquity, Judge Lynch. This causes defects, and to be measured clear of all heart shakes and our Northern friends to raise their heads and the whites of their ey's, and to exclaim, "What a lawl ss, bloody-minded community! how wretch-20 pieces 20 feet long, 16 inches wide, and 11 inches ed must be your condition, poor negro, who liest bound in fitters at the mercy of such a race !!" 35 pieces 18 feet long, 16 inches wide, and 10 inches They, immaculate souls, cannot abide Judge bick.

35 pieces 12 feet long, 15 inches wide, and 9 inches Lynch or his doings. But as the old Adam will ly the prevention of crime is an object greatly to properly owe its advancement, and be under an sometimes prevail even in pure hearts, when this be desired; and this is one reason why we favor obligation, to crime? And he might with great happens, they burn a Convent or two over the the Penitentiary system. We have always un- propriety deny that "Literature" in general, or The diameter of the top heads of defenceless females-disembowel a flour derstood this mode of punishment is a preventive the "Common Schools" in particular, should be warehouse, and divide the conten's amongone an- of crime." Now this is one of the delusions clogged and stigmatized by a debt of gratitude to 30 sticks of 55 to 60 feet long, Prices to be stated per other—tear down some Catholic Churches, and from which the public mind should be freed. crimes and felons. 20 sticks of 60 to 65 feet lang, stick of the different shoot a dozen or two of the red-mouthed Irish No doubt but whilst the whole system was a more or occasionally shoot a sheriff, who is so bold as theory, when the attempt was first making to to undertake to enforce the law for collecting impress men's minds with the idea of a new mode Prices to be stated per rents. But as to Lynch's law, " heaven keep of punishing crimes, the prevention of crimes them from such a monstrous abomination"! But had a conspicuous place in the catalogue of advan-

I must go back a little, Mr. Editor, and tell you tages which the proposed scheme possessed; and how skillfully the New Yorkers have recently unfortunately, when an attempt is to be made to managed to establish a Penitentiary, and yet not introduce the system into another State, the old have it to interfere with mechanical TRADES. I'll hypothetic catulogue is brought forth, and a those required at guess how it was done. You give it up, and won't sential ingredient of good argument to influence a penitentiary and put all the coavicts to one trade to be proved to be certainly true in practice. -they set all to work in iron. So that instead of It is the opinion of many intelligent men, in having to list n to the complaints of the shoemak- the States which have adopted the system, that the ers, the carrenters, hatters, tailors, and a hundred Penitentiary is not a preventive of crimes. At-I guess a whig planned it for the purpose of a- The Reports of "Penitentiary Committees," are

voiding the ugly coal dust, with which the black- one sided things, and entitled to but little respect. Bonds to one-half the amount of the contracts which smiths sometimes begrimed the whig parlors, just In the absence of positive proof, a comparative more extended notice in this place. ters and farmers, that penitentiary convicts cannot for the profits of Prison labor are not in inverse position to the system on account of its injuring tain that the profits annually increase; the rational mechanics in their trades; they would quickly be inference is that the number of convicts also input to cropping, and down would tumble the al- creases; or if there has been a deficit, and it ready low prices of agricultural products. How annually decreases, the conclusion will be the could we find a market for our produce if two same. This, as general rules, will be found true, hundred N Carolina rogues were added to the num- though other circumstances may affect the result convicts confined in them, we should scarcely crime.

hom the west, I think it probable he is aiming to get have, with our present number of inhabitants in this In the absence of affirmative proof, we have fully received; and a liberal reward paid for his appre- State, more than 200 in our prison, at any one time. a negative proof that may convince every imparhersion, so that I can get him again. Address me at I have not the returns of the last census before me, tial mind. The system has been now a long time but it is believed that the number of mechanics in operation; and, if it were evidently a prevenin North Carolina is not less than 40,000. But tive of crime, its friends would make a triumphant we will say it is only 20,000. Add 200 peniten. flourish of this evidence of success. And yet it tiary convicts to this number and we have an in- has not been shown that crimes have gradually crease of one per cent. The consequence of which decreased in several of the States that have Peniwill be that the blacksmith, who now gets 100 tentiaries. It has not been shown that they are cents for shoeing a horse, will have to be satisfied on the decrease in any one of those States; neither to receive for the same work 99 cents. And in has it been shown that crimes are at a stand, the same proportion will the wages of the other checked, in several of those States. If these mechanics be reduced. I cannot bring myself to things could be shown, they would be; if they The year will be divided into two Sessions of five believe that our mechanics are made of such stuff cannot be shown, they do not exist. Under this morths each; the first Session beginning on the first as to oppose the establishment of a highly useful view of the case, would a candid man feel at liinstitution for so pultry a consideration. But, in berty to assert or believe that the Penitentiary sys-

truth, if we were to have 1,000 convicts employ- tem is a preventive of crime? quiring a thorough English, Classical and Mathematical ed in mechanical pursuits it would not diminish Long ago, in Massachusetts, an application to the value of mechanical labor one per cent. The the General Government for some remote place Pupils will be prepared to enter the Junior Class of real rivals of our mechanics are in New and Old to send criminals to, was spoken of; and the rea-England and our middle States. If there were son assigned was that the Penitentiary had signalnot a shoem ker in North Carolina, the price of ly failed to fulfil the purpose for which it was shors would not advance five cents a pair. Nor erected. But Yankee ingenuity at length diswould hats or axes, if there were none made in covered, that if crame could not be repressed by 20 00 the State. I ask you, Mr. Shormaker, Mr. Black- the Penitentiary, it could, at least, be so managed The advanced Classes may pursue the Studies of a smith, and Mr. Hatter, who are your rivals that as to yield an income to the State; which leads us lower Class, paying only for the Studies of the Class to most interfere with your business? You are o. in the next place to consider the Penifertiary sys.

"Touched by the Midas finger of the State,

Bleed gold for Ministers to sport away." order to exhibit the boys for the benefit or the Institu- shors from Richmond to Ruleigh; about three in defence of the Penitentiary system, is, that a cents to bring one axe. The rogues amongst us, profit may arise from it, for the benefit of the prisons for 10 years. By an Act of the last Legislature, necessary arms Mr. Editor, must continue to steal or be set to State. This places the great expenditure to be and equipments are furnished by the State, but Pa- work. Is there any well-principled man who can incurred on the basis of an investment for profit; Department, will be required to provide them with the hesitate one moment to say which of the two and it is gravely urged, that the investment will be should be done? They cannot be set to work on a lucr tive one. The grossness of the iden, is N. B. A few Pupils will be taken as Boarders, by a farm, because it would require too much money sometimes attempted to be concealed under the to enclose a field large enough to employ them in garb of economy in punishing crimes, But unthis way so as to prevent escapes. If they work, der whatever guise the thought of deriving a reit must be at some mechanical employment. To venue from crime may have the effrontery to this no mechanic ought to object, when he com- present itself, it appears to me to be both indelicate pares the wages of mechanical with agricultural and demoralizing. The punishment of crimes labor. One of our mechanics gets now, for a should over be a brothen on the community; then day's work, from two to five times as much as a every incentive to prevent them will be in force. field laborer of equal strength. If we allow the But the community should never derive benefit idea to prevail, which rejects every valuable im- from crimes, because that makes it directly interthe State, I have given their names as references. They provement, because it may happen to diminish ested in their continuance and increase; and their the State, I have given their names as references. They send their sons or wards to my school, and of course the profits of some particular class of men, we diminution, or total prevention, would have the their opinions can be confidently trusted. J. M. L. must tear up our railroads, because they have in-appearance of a public loss—the destruction of Raleigh, Dec. 8, 1845. Then, if this view of the subject be For Sale. wagons, and go to rolling tobucco again as in old correct, there should be no investment, or outlay of A Negro Woman, a good cook, for eash or credit, times; we must pull down our minufacturing, money, made on the basis of crime, which can, Dec. 16, 1845 .- \$80-tt. grist, corn and wheat mills, and go to the mortars by any contingency, become profitable.

and handmills—destroy our valuable cotton facto- | The people of North Carolina should be well fact which is stated to us, by officers who have be supported at the public expense his object is ries and take up the oldfashioned wheel and cards advised before they vote for a Penitentiary. I opportunities of knowing, that very many are easily attained. -throw away the fan-mills and wait till March would invite particular attention to what I am brought in and committed temporarily, their Hence it is that there are persons at that pricomes to winnow our wheat. You can make no now about to say. Should the expenditure be names never being entered on the books of the son who make it their home, and have spent improvement without injuring somebody's busi- made, and the establishment prove a burthen to the prison. more before you, Mr. Editor, to make my bow to ness. You, yourself, Mr. Editor, have ruined the people, they would demand relief. The Prison yourself and our fellow-citizens of North Caroli- business of scores of sheep-skin dressers and copyna, and to redeem my promise to talk over the ists, with your naughty printing press and news- the money would be sunk. But a remedy must proposed scheme of establishing a Penitentiary in papers and must come to the block and be decap- be sought. The Legislature would be compelled our State. As you informed your readers some itated as a public nuisance under this anti-im- to make a long list of offences Penitentiary crimes, and lengthen the shortest period for which The people of North Carolina are proverbial a criminal could be convicted for a given offence been every week expecting to see some reasons for the tight grasp they retain on the strings of the -the latter portion of a convict's time being most given why a penitentiary should not be erected. public purse, and I for one honor and applaud valuable. Thus punishments might be greatly be inserted one time for One Dollar, and twenty-five So far I have waited in vain; and although in them for it. It has often of late been said of Gen. disproportioned to offences and great injustice be inserted one time for One Dollar, and great injustice cents for each subsequent insertion;—those of great- writing, as well as in talking, it is but dry work McKay, the worthy Democrat at the head of the done. Judges and jurors, having a discretionary to have no one to reply, I must even proceed with committee of Ways and Means in the House of power in the awarding penalties, would be temptal Advertisements will be charged twenty-five per what I have to write, at the risk of putting the Representatives, that "a treasury dollar in his ed to protract the term of confinements, merely cent higher than the above raies. A deduction of readers of the Standard to sleep. The very long eyes was as big as a cart wheel." A much high- for the relief of the people, and without just re-33 1-3 per cent, will be made to those was accepted, and without just relabor through even the dull numbers of "A Plan- Our law-makers cannot well do much mischief been alleged, that jurors have failed to convict the Letters to the Editor must come free of postage, or they ter." Since writing my last number, I have been without money. But even Gen. McKay would guilty, because their conviction would impose a fortunate enough to see the manner in which our not go so far in his doctrine of economy as a burthen upon the community, including themvery cute brethren of New York have managed worthy old lady of my acquaintance. Some neigh- selves. Change the circumstances, let the danger to get over the difficulty which lay in the way of bors and friends were once advising her son of the burthen be attached to non-conviction, and establishing another pententiary in that State, in to make some improvement on his farm. The it would be but the exercise of the same venal consequence of the mechanics' cry that it would old lady, somewhat deaf, caught enough to under- principle to convict the accused upon too slight interfere with their business. Clever folks are stand that money was necessary to accomplish the grounds-a more deplorable evil. From the our Northern brethren, and fit for any body to proposed scheme; but not enough to understand same cause, the executive would be deterred from p. m. of the 10th of January next, for in insining and de-livering, on or before the 1st July, 1846, the following consult when any difficulty is in the way, especially for such straight forward, blundering people as we of the South, who, when we are harrassed by don't you do it if it costs money." I propose to evidently disproportionate to the offence. Moreover 30,000 cubic feet of white oak plank stocks, none less a community of brilliantly japanned blacklegs, a say something of the cost of a penitentiary before I if the prison should be profitable, the same evils

> the gains So much for the profits of a Penitentiary, or a speculation on crime-a thing preposterous and odious in its conception, and inquitous in its progress. Men begin by attempting to exonerate themselves from the burthen of punishing crimes. expend a large sum of money in a measure that only adds to their butthen, go on to desire the increase of criminals, and end in over-nunishing what victims they have. Moreover, a man of correct taste may be excused for asking: To what purpose would you apply an income deriv-Some benevolent-minded men may say, "Tru- cd from crime? What interest in the State might

> > From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser. Extract from the forthcoming Report of the

Prison Association. The business of this committee (on detensions) was necessarily confined to the prisons in this city and in Brooklyn, embracing constantly the cases of about one thousand prisoners. Circumscribed in the performance of their task by the pressing nature of their private avocations, they have yet been able to be the instruments of much be found in the fact that during the year they have for the past year. given their attention to the cases of eighty boys who have been arrested, and have restored fortyeight of them to their parents or friends.

The repeated visits of the members of the committee to these prisons have made them familiarly acquainted with their condition and government. Their material construction and arrangement are particularly described in the report of the proper committee, but their moral condition deserves a

We have been inexpressibly shocked at the view of the grievous wrong which these instituapproved and paid before the completion of the contracts, that. We ought greatly to rejoice, brother plan- we ought to infer that there are many laborers; tions are daily inflicting upon the community; and while, on the one hand, we feel the want of Offers must be made in strict conformity with the be put to making cotton, tobacco, rice or corn. ratio to the number of laborers. Untenanted language adequately to express our disapproba-Could this be done, we should hear no more op- Penitentiaries do not yield profits. If we ascerso revolting is the truth, that our statements may be regarded as exaggerations, or as prompted by some personal feelings of ill will.

Without pausing, however, to indulge in any protestation as to the singlearss of purpose with which we entered upon the duty, we will simply point attention to one of the primary objects involved in our association, namely, the reformation of prisoners, and the improvement of prison discipline. To this purpose the executive committee were solemnly and deliberately pledged at their election, and however unpleasant and painful the duty may be, we cannot besitate in its performance without slighting the responsibility we have assumed, and disregarding the trust re-

And the call of this duty is the more imperaive, because the evil has continued so many years, and has increased with appalling velocity.

Though we shall speak mainly of the present condition of the prisons, it must by no means be inferred that the past is exempt from its share of tion of the past. To prevent its throwing its gloomy shadow upon the future is our object,

At the outset of our investigations we were startled by the consideration of the increase of crime in this city within a few years, a consideration the more interesting because in such marked contrast with the rest of the state and the union.

tions as vagrant and disorderly persons.

The great argument from used and relied on; make to a satisfactory

1835.	Potal number for this year	(6 weeks	
A. 199 H	wanting)	temporalist?	1963
	Average per week	43	us artist
1836.	Potal number for the year	and build	5103
0.00	Average per week	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	41 10 42
1837.	Cotal number for the year		6116
	Average per week	117	maa, si
1838.	Potal number for the year	-5-4	-5711
- VIII 109	Average per week	109	
1839.	Potal number for the year		8102
- Sec.	Average per week	156	0110
1840.	Potal number for the year	Allegeral P	9110
	Average per week	175	49110
1811.	Potal number for the year	111	7348
1010	Average per week	alliwed the	7965
	l'otal nun ber for the year	153	7505
	A verage per week	100	7269
1843.	Cotal number for the year	139	1400
tord n	Average per week	MARKET THE RESERVED	Rong
1814.	Potal number for the year Average per week	154	2000
W It is	evident that this table e	xhibits ver	y im-
pe lecu	y the condition of the cit	hitson, it	mi the

Commitments in the City Prison and the Penitentiary for ten years, on convictions in the Oyer to the police office and give themselves up, as

Year.	To Penitentiary.		To City Prison.		Total.	
1000	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	and.	
1835	420	throughout i	4	of wider	424	
1836	318	53	4	2	377	
1837	460	75	8	en Tresta	533	
1838	296	62	50	20	428	
1839	278	71	53	27	429	
1840	374	86	107	40	607	
1841	441	122	154	47	763	
1842	503	107	153	53	81	
1843	580	134	274	59	1047	
1844	681	119	277	72	1149	

eturns of 1835.)

Of the third class, the following table of summary convictions gives the nearest approximation to the truth that we have been able to obtain, evil doers, our prisons are fled to as a desirable These accounts have been obtained with great refuge; instead of being a house of reform, where difficulty, and it is to us a cause of great surprise, resolutions of amendment may be cherished and that in a matter involving so great an expenditure encouraged, our penitentiary is a school of of money and the liberty and characters of so vice, where the novice in crime is compelled, in many people, specific and definite returns are not the name of the law, to serve a regular apprenticemade and preserved, in such a manner as to ena- ship in vice, until perfected in his trade, by the ble some one person, at least, if not the public lessons taught him by the hardened offenders with in general, to know in what manner and to what whom he is obliged to affiliate, he goes forth into extent so important a duty shall be performed.

Summary convictions, including the commitment to the penitentiary, of disorderly persons and

<b>Sel</b>	THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF	
	1840. Total amount for the year	1201
	Avarage per month	100
	1841. Total amount for the year	1699
	Average per month	141
	1842. Total amount for the year	1699
	Average per month that out to	166
	1843. Total amount for the year	2059
	Average per month	171
	1844. Total amount for the year	2000
	Average per month	166
	In 1845 the total amount to Dec. 9th, is	2237
8	Average per month	186, or
	six each day.	100, 01
	dia cacii day.	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1

These tables are not to be received as containing the whole truth. They are only an approximation to it, and the nearest approach the committee have been enabled to make, after diligent in- acknowledge that language is intil drate to do quiry in every imaginable direction where it was justice to the subject. probable more positive and reliable information could be obtained.

our police and penitentiary establishments. No separate account is kept, but the following items and in this city where there are so many nobla length and sizes as one as big. if you have eat n that,) that you can't It looks well upon paper, but it wants a very est good; the most prominent instance of which is to Comptroller's report, and indicate nearly the cost

Expenditures of the commissioners of the Alms

For city prison and penitentiary \$65,357.70 darkest age. Extra services for police officers 21,207 40 Salaries of officers in this department 56,069 87

This is exclusive of the cost of the coroner's office, records for prisoners, pay of aldermen and officers attending court, printing, repairs, and other contingent charges. These items must swell the total cost to the city of this department alone to over \$150,000 a year.

From these statements, imperfect as they are, and from the fact that there are from 17 to 20 prisons in this city, including station houses and police offices, at which at least 30,000 of our people are confined each year at an annual expense to the honest portion of the community of over \$150,000, some idea may be formed of the importance of the subject.

The first consideration that would strike any one attempting to investigate the subject, is the entire want of order, system and organization, which pervades the whole department. It is nominally under the supervision of the commissioner of the Alms House, but his other duties are so onerous as the vagrants and disorderly persons are conthat it is impossible for him to do more than give casual and occasional glances only at the prisons. Hence there is no attempt to introduce anything like a system of prison discipline; no efforts at economy, unless some feeble and spasmodic attempts at curtailment can be deemed such; no common head to control; no one to inspect or supervise; no one to detect or remove abuses.

It is not, therefore, a matter of surprise that evils exist, or that they are of an alarming and serious character. The enumeration of some of the censure. The present is but a faithful reflec- the most glaring among them will aid in the obgeneral idea only of the state and condition of our

The average number of persons continually in the two principal city prisons, during the past year, is about 1200; and the expense of keeping, governing and controlling them, which was last bill for the taxing of dogs. No state, in prepor-The inmates of our city prisons may with pro- year drawn from the city treasury, was \$84,959 tion to its population, has no large number of dogs.

First. Those who are arrested on a charge of of persons in our state prisons at Auburn and traced to dogs. If a tax was laid upon them, the having committed some crime or offence. Second. Sing Sing was about 1700, and the amount drawn thousands that are worthless and prowl about Those who are convicted of some crime or of from the state treasury for the same purpose was sheep yards would be killed off and farmers could fence, either in the U. S. Courts, the Oyer and \$24,803 80. So that the state prisoners have keep sheep with comparative safety. The State Terminer or General or Special Sessions. Third. cost \$14 59 each per year, while our city prison bounty on wolves meets with universal approbation, Those who are committed on Summary convictors have cost \$70 79 each, or about five times as vet they do not do one quarter the damage that much. There can be no doubt that the introduc- is done by dogs. Of the first class the nearest approach we can tion of a proper system of finance into our city make to a satisfactory statement is the following prisons would produce great relief to the burdens Printing Office Jokes. It is customary in some of the honest part of our citizens.

much greater importance. It is of frequent oc- object of various jokes. He is often sent to a currence that persons are arrested and detained neighboring office for an article which is of course in some of our houses of detention sometimes for imaginary, and wholly original in the minds of two or three days, of whom no account is render- those who perpetrate the joke. Once upon a ed anywhere; and it is manifest from the present time, a boy was sent to K--'s office for a quart defective organization in this respect, that the li- of editorial. He was sent back with the picture berty of the friendless and unprotected portion of of a jackass. This was rather severe upon the our population must be very much at the mercy jokers-but they immediately told the boy to go of our police officers, and that without a more to K-, and tell him "it was the editorial perfect system of inspection and returns, there is which they, wanted, and not the editor." great room for bad men to abuse the power with which they may be trusted.

the expiration of their sentences, sometimes be- liam Commonsense, Jacob Honesty, Richard cause they are forgotten, sometimes because the Straightforward, Peter Prudence, Thomas Econprisoners desire to remain, and sometimes because lomy, Alexander Fearmothing, Reuben Fuithful, the officers think it for the interest of the Cor- Samuel Mind-your business. poration that they should be detained. It is indeed a general practice at the penitentiary never Advice to Merchants and Girls. Never refuse ed, so that if a prisoner chooses to remain and tainty -- the latter only hope:

there the most of their time for years. Very Of the second class the following account is far- many are confined at the penitentiary, not because avowedly only because they are destitute or diseased. This includes a class of persons who go they term it, because they seek a place of refuge; a large number of diseased prostitutes who go there as to a hospital; and many strangers and foreigners, who, in their ignorance of our institutions, apply for relief to the police office, and are relieved by being sent to the penitentiary. The crowning evil, however, arises out of the

manner in which the prisoners are confined together. So unrestrained is the intercourse among them, especially at the penitentiary, that it presents all the revolting features of the very worst prisons in the old world. There is absolutely nothing to prevent the contamination which always springs from evil communication; nothing (The men and women are not separated in the to check the growth of corruption, but much to foster it as in a hotbed of vice in rapid and vigorous strength.

The result is that instead of being a terror to the world to prey upon society, to swell the catalogue of crimes, and finally to "atone" on the gallows or in the state prison for practicing the lessons which he has thus been compelled, by the ministers of justice, to learn.

The sentence which bound the dead to the living body was mercy to that refinement of cruelty which thus chains the quick and living soul in the embrance of festering corruption. That was not an enduring imprisonment. That was not an everlasting chain.

This is no fancy sketch. It is the sail reality that is in our very midst. If any one doubts the fidelity of the picture, let him, if he can so long endure the profanity and obscenity which will offend his sight and hearing, spend half an hour on the first floor of the female apartments of the city prison, or in the 'Luny House' as it is termed on Blackwell's Island, and he will be ready to

It will be to him, as it has been to us, matter of especial wonder, that in this State which first So too is it difficult to ascertain the expense of set the example of prison reform, that has been admired and imitated throughout the civilized world, charities admirably conducted, prisons are permitted to exist so wretchedly organized; and above all, that a prison, the largest on the continent, almost in the world, is kept up, continued, supported and conducted in a manner that would reflect disgrace upon the most barbarous nation of the

> When these evils will be corrected it is difficult to divine. It might be supposed that the success which has attended the efforts of the State in pria-\$142,574 97 on government, would have some influence. But that example seems to be lost, and equally vain is the lesson thught by the cities of Boston and Philadelphia, where their penitentiaries not only reflect credit upon them, but actually diminish crime. It seems to be equally vain that our grand juries over and over again make their presentments. They are either " laid upon the table" or "referred to a committee," and receive no more atten-

> > So long as these admonitions are thus wasted and so long as these evils are allowed to exist and to grow dufly in strength, let no one wonder that crime increases at a fearful rate, and that the burdens of the community are correspondingly augmented; and above all, let no man complain that this society, in strict fidelity to the purpose for which it was organized, speaks the truth of these things in soberness and in sorrow;

> > . One great remedy for these evils, at least so far cerned will be found in the establishment of a work house for that class of persons. An object at which the committee intend continually to aim until it shall be obtained.

A man sat down in the shop of Parsons, the barber, on Friday morning; placed his feet upon the round-table, thus ranging his toes at an angle of about forty-five degrees from his head; read the President's Message, as issued by the Tropie and Delta, from beginning to end, and then having enunciated the President's name, with which ject we have in view, namely, that of giving a it closed, turned round to a gen leman, who was taking off his neckkerchief preparatory to a share, and ingenuously asked-" Who is James K. N. Orleans Times.

The last Legislature had in contemplation a priety be regarded as constituting three classes. 08. During the same time the average number The destruction among sheep is almost always

> printing offices, when a particularly green youth But the moral influences of our prisons are of commences learning his trade to make him the

> A Strong Voter. Somebody threw a ballot at Persons are frequently detained in prison after Boston, containing the following frames:- Wil-

to let a prisoner out until he asks to be discharg- a good off r for a better market. The first is cer-